

Message Text

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PAGE 01 STATE 166539
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FM SECSTATE WASHDC

TO AMEMBASSY PARIS IMMEDIATE

AMEMBASSY BRUSSELS IMMEDIATE

AMEMBASSY RABAT IMMEDIATE

AMEMBASSY CAIRO IMMEDIATE

AMEMBASSY KHARTOUM IMMEDIATE

AMEMBASSY JIDDA IMMEDIATE

AMEMBASSY AMMAN IMMEDIATE

AMEMBASSY KINSHASA IMMEDIATE

AMEMBASSY LIBREVILLE IMMEDIATE

AMEMBASSY NDJAMENA IMMEDIATE

AMEMBASSY TRIPOLI IMMEDIATE

C O N F I D E N T I A L STATE 166539

NODIS

FOL RPT BONN 11765 ACTION SECSTATE 16 JUL 77 QUOTE

C O N F I D E N T I A L BONN 11765

NODIS

DEPT. PASS OTHER POSTS AS DESIRED

E.O. 11652: GDS

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TAGS: MASS, CD, US, GW

SUBJ: MILITARY ASSISTANCE TO CHAD

REFS: (A) STATE 166492; (B) STATE 166037; (C) BONN
11540 (EXDIS); (D) BONN 10990 (EXDIS); (E) BONN
11713.

1. THE CONSIDERATIONS EXPRESSED IN REFTEL C. CONCERNING PROBABLE GERMAN REACTIONS TO OUR POSSIBLE RESPONSES TO THE SOMALIAN REQUEST FOR ASSISTANCE, WOULD BE GENERALLY APPLICABLE IN THE CASE OF CHAD AS WELL. THE GERMAN POLICY OF NON-TRANSFER OF ARMS TO AREAS OF TENSION WOULD ALMOST CERTAINLY PRECLUDE AN ACTIVE GERMAN ROLE IN MEETING CHAD'S REQUEST FOR ARMS. IT WOULD NOT NECESSARILY MEAN THAT THE FRG WOULD OBJECT TO OTHERS' DOING SO, OR THAT THE FRG WOULD NOT JOIN WITH OTHERS IN PROVIDING NON-LETHAL ASSISTANCE.

2. DURING THE RECENT US/FRG BILATERAL POLICY PLANNING TALKS, THE FRG STRONGLY EMPHASIZED THE IMPORTANCE OF WESTERN CONSULTATION AND COORDINATION IN DEALING WITH AFRICAN PROBLEMS. DEPARTMENT WILL RECALL KINKEL'S REQUEST FOR DIALOGUE IN THE PRE-FORMULATION STAGE OF POLICY DEVELOPMENT (REF. D, PARA 12).

3. AGAINST THAT BACKGROUND, OUR VIEW IS THAT GERMAN COOPERATION-- WHICH AT BEST WOULD BE LIMITED TO NON-LETHAL AID-- WOULD BE MORE LIKELY TO BE FORTHCOMING IF THE FRG WERE CONSULTED BY THE US BEFORE BEING INVITED TO A "FRIENDS OF CHAD" MEETING WITH PARTICIPATION AS BROAD AS SUGGESTED IN REF. A AND WITH A PRE-DETERMINED OBJECTIVE OF EXAMINING HOW EACH PARTICIPANT MIGHT BEST CONTRIBUTE TO CHAD'S SECURITY.

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4. FOREGOING IS, OF COURSE, ONLY OUR BEST GUESS AS TO FRG REACTION, WHICH WILL OF COURSE ALSO BE TEMPERED BY GERMAN ATTITUDES TOWARD LIBYA AND CHAD AND THEIR ASSESSMENT OF THE IMPLICATIONS OF THE PRESENT CONFLICT. IF DEPARTMENT AGREES, WE WILL ATTEMPT TO TAKE SOUNDINGS WITH THE FOREIGN OFFICE MONDAY MORNING, JULY 18. IN ADDITION, DEPARTMENT MIGHT ALSO CONSIDER AUTHORIZING AMBASSADOR STOESSEL AND AMBASSADOR YOUNG TO RAISE THE MATTER IN THE SMALL, PRIVATE LUNCHEON THEY ARE HAVING WITH FOREIGN MINISTER GENSCHER ON TUESDAY, JULY 19, (REF E).

CASH

UNQUOTE VANCE

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NNN

Message Attributes

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